



Kelham Korner

KELHAM BAPTIST CHURCH
3400 North Meridian
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kelham.org

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Prayer God is Faithful

Newer Requests

- Floyd & Twila Howard—health
- Joan Cox—severely infected toe/circulation
- Steve Daniel (Justine Hoel's son-in-law)—cancer
- Mitzi and Roger Hembree—health (cancer of tongue)
- Claud Holland—fingers
- Kay Jones—peptic ulcer
- Littleton family—unspoken
- Norma and Glenna Littleton—respiratory virus
- Chris McEver
- Chris, brother of Ginger Montgomery—health
- Kaylie Rocco—shoulder surgery
- Ron Sherrod—pneumonia
- Del Wilburn (Kathy Rattan's father)—health

Ongoing Prayer Needs

- Glenda Anderson—health
- Beverly & Mike Beardain—health/memory; Chad
- Allen Cloud—health
- Bette Fehrl—health
- Walter Goddard—strength
- Gary & Judy Goree—health
- Mark Handley's son & his brother, Tracy
- Brady Hurd—nephew of Julia Huntley, stage 4 cancer
- Danny Imhoff—health
- Margaret Keillor, wife of pastor's friend—terminal cancer
- David Smith—friend of Mark Handley, heart issues
- Amy Valentine—remission/thanksgiving
- Sawyer Vincent—Danny and Tina's grandson—health
- Becca Rocco's sister-in-law, Kathy Ketter
- Our leaders and representatives

PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM Military

Heather Riggins; Floyd Howard's grandson

Our Homebound

- Sam Castleberry
- Lloyd and Joan Dickerson (Burlson, TX)
- Billye Murrell (assisted living, Texas)
- Donna Shick, Carol Kimberlin's mother (Grace, Bethany)
- Justine Hoel (Bellevue, Room 446A)

Our College Students

- Hallie Benedict—Southwest Baptist
- Madi Montgomery—Wichita State University
- Donavon Pietzsch—North Texas State University
- Mieka Pietzsch—University of Oklahoma
- Makenna Vess—Oklahoma Baptist University

For addresses and phone numbers call the office.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:13)

December Birthdays

- 18 Shannan Magden
- 19 Rachel Whatley
- 20 Heather Riggins
- 24 Linda May
- 28 Wayne Hendricks

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

Received to Date: \$1,441



Christmas Eve, 5 PM

Stewardship for Morning	12/14/2024
Budget Receipts:	\$936.00
Weekly Budget Required:	\$3,773.56
Over/Under:	\$2,853.56
Operation Christmas Child:	\$250.00
Lottie Moon:	\$570.00

ÚNETE A LA GRAN BÚSQUEDA HOY MISMO CON TU OFRENDA GENEROSA

100%
OF YOUR GIFT TO THE
LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING!
SUPPORTS RESIGNARY PRESENCE.

今天開始你慷慨的禮物向偉大目標

JOIN THE GREAT PURSUIT THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS GIFT TODAY

OUR CHURCH GIVING GOAL
LA META DE NUESTRA IGLESIA
\$ 5200

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

WELFARE

Guess Who!

What mother would trip her eldest daughter by pretending she had stepped on her toe and then say, "Just kidding"?

At Harper Montgomery's choir concert last week, Claudia tripped Layla and Layla's daughter Mieka captured the look on Layla's face. Personally, I don't blame Layla! Tony looks amused—but only because he did not fall!



War of the Worlds?

Today's generation fails to appreciate the power radio held over people's life in pre-electronic media days. A 1938 radio program CBS Radio Network aired on Halloween on *The Mercury Theatre of the Air* incited panic when listeners heard of a Martian invasion. Orson Welles adapted H.G. Wells's (no relation) novel from forty years earlier. The "breaking news" style of the broadcast (without commercial interruptions), which was preceded by an introduction that stated it was fictional, scared New York City area listeners. In *Broadcast Hysteria: Orson Welles's War of the World and the Art of Fake News*, authors Farrar, Straus and Giroux recount, "On the evening of October 30, 1938, radio listeners across the United States heard a startling report of a meteor strike in the New Jersey countryside. With sirens blaring in the background, announcers in the field described mysterious creatures, terrifying war machines, and thick clouds of poison gas moving toward New York City. As the invading force approached Manhattan, some listeners sat transfixed, while others ran to alert neighbors or to call the police. Some even fled their homes" ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_War_of_the_Worlds_\(1938_radio_drama\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_War_of_the_Worlds_(1938_radio_drama))). I thought of the program this week on hearing multiple reports of unidentified aerial vehicles (drones) in the Northeast. Politicians have demanded answers. The President-elect has called for the government to tell us what's going on or to shoot them down.

Since the early 1950s we have been exposed to countless alien-invasion scenarios in film—*Invaders from Mars* (1953), *War of the Worlds* (1953, a film version of H. G. Wells's book which won the Academy Award for special effects), *Forbidden Planet* (1956), *The Invisible Boy* (1957)—both films featuring *Robby the Robot*—and *Earth Vs. the Flying Saucers* (1956). Modern films with much better special effects, like *Independence Day* (1996), Spielberg's remake of *War of the Worlds* (2005), *Predator* (1987), *Avatar* (2009), *The Thing* (1982), *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (1977), and *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* (1982) have explored (*exploited?*) the concept of alien creatures coming to earth and the fear that produces. Usually the spacecraft have lots of lights, one of the apparent hallmarks of the current UAV sightings.

Congressman Jeff Van Drew (R., NJ) claimed the drones were Iranian, sent from a mother ship thirty miles off the coast. J.D. Rucker reported a 25-year radar operator on *Reddit* claiming this was a U.S. Space Force exercise that would include the lockdown of all electronic communications before Christmas. Another explanation involves US Navy experiments to test resupply of offshore vessels via drone. To make things worse, federal officials have claimed these are not unusual and are likely misidentified small aircraft and/or store-bought hobbyist drones. Officials have asserted they are not military-controlled drones while also assuring us they are not foreign drones or dangerous. Attempts by local law enforcement to identify them have been met with drones going dark.

The mayor of Washington Township, NJ, Matt Murello, "cast doubt on the official statements suggesting 'no perceiv-

ed threat.' 'We've heard that before from our federal government—We're not looking, we're not watching you, we're not watching your calls, we're not doing everything and don't worry—we're here and we're here to help you'" (<https://abcnews.go.com/US/east-coast-drones-latest-somethings-new-jersey-mayor/story?id=116820553>).

One cynical theory says the drone drama is an engineered crisis due to the impending expiration of the FAA's authority to counter drones in the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, which expires December 20. Ellen Gilmer wrote, "The frenzy over the reported drone clusters creates powerful momentum in a debate that has repeatedly stalled on Capitol Hill... Existing federal authority to take down dangerous drones in the US expires on Dec. 20, and lawmakers must include a last-minute extension in a stopgap spending package to prevent a lapse" (<https://news.bgov.com/bloomberg-government-news/drone-mystery-raises-pressure-for-lawmakers-to-bolster-defenses>). A potentially frightening possibility was suggested in a post on *X* (formerly *Twitter*) from someone claiming to be a Department of Defense contractor: these "drones are American-made HPGe Nuclear Detection Drones." In addition, John Ferguson, "an expert in the field of unmanned aerial systems (UAS)," expressed his opinion on *TikTok* that these UAVs are part of "a classified operation aimed at recovering a nuclear warhead that allegedly disappeared in Europe" (<https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2024/12/theyre-trying-smell-something-ground-ceo-government-backed/>).

Is this a "war of the worlds"? The Bible tells us that there is a war of the worlds. Scripture calls Satan the "god of this world" (2 Cor. 4:4). John tells us Jesus came into the world to "destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). God invaded this world in the Person of His Son as a Baby. Luke said shepherds in the fields saw the "glory of the Lord" (Luke 2:9), which "shone round about them: and they were sore afraid." Kittel noted "radiance" as part of this word (*TDNT*, Vol. III, p. 237), and others "brightness." There was a brilliant light from the sky in that heavenly invasion. Jesus triumphed at the cross "having spoiled principalities and powers" (Col. 2:15). He won the war through death and resurrection, though battles continue and we yet await His triumphal return. Matthew wrote: "They shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matt. 24:30). That final heavenly invasion will be marked by heavenly light as well.

I confess I have no idea what these drones are. Scripture says Satan appears as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14). What I do know is that my Father in heaven knows exactly what's going on. Our lives, our nation, our world are in His hands. David proclaimed, "Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep" (Ps. 121:4). God is always on watch over His own. For that I can give thanks, and I await the day when the light of Jesus, the true Light, lights up the skies once more. That future "invasion" will not be the invasion of aliens, but the invasion of the One who loved us so much He came in human flesh, lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and arose from the dead. I say, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20).

Brother Gary

